

AT THE THEATRES

COMING ATTRACTIONS.

At Auditorium.
April 26 and 27—Spring Musical Festival—Minneapolis Symphony orchestra.

At the Grand.
Blanche Walsh—Tuesday.
The Right of Way—Thursday.
Merry Widow—Saturday, matinee and night.

MISS BLANCHE WALSH, who will be seen at the Grand theater in "The Test" Tuesday, April 26, appears in the strongest role of her career as an emotional actress. The play, the work of Jules Eckert Goodman, is pronounced by New York critics to be one of the most powerful stage works produced in America in many years.

Following are a few excerpts from "The Test":
From the children of the poor come the great men of the earth.
Marriage is a sacrament and without love it is a degradation.
Happiness is the right of youth alone.
Marriage, nowadays, is a business.
Charity is the greatest crime of the age, for it is a begging of the question, "The Right to Live."

The rich who do charity work are usually in need of charity.

A woman always gets what she wants—that's why she is miserable.

The woman who marries a man to reform him is a widow before she's a bride.

There is a difference between grammar and character.

Every woman is jealous. Even if she doesn't want a man because she is jealous of the woman who gets him.

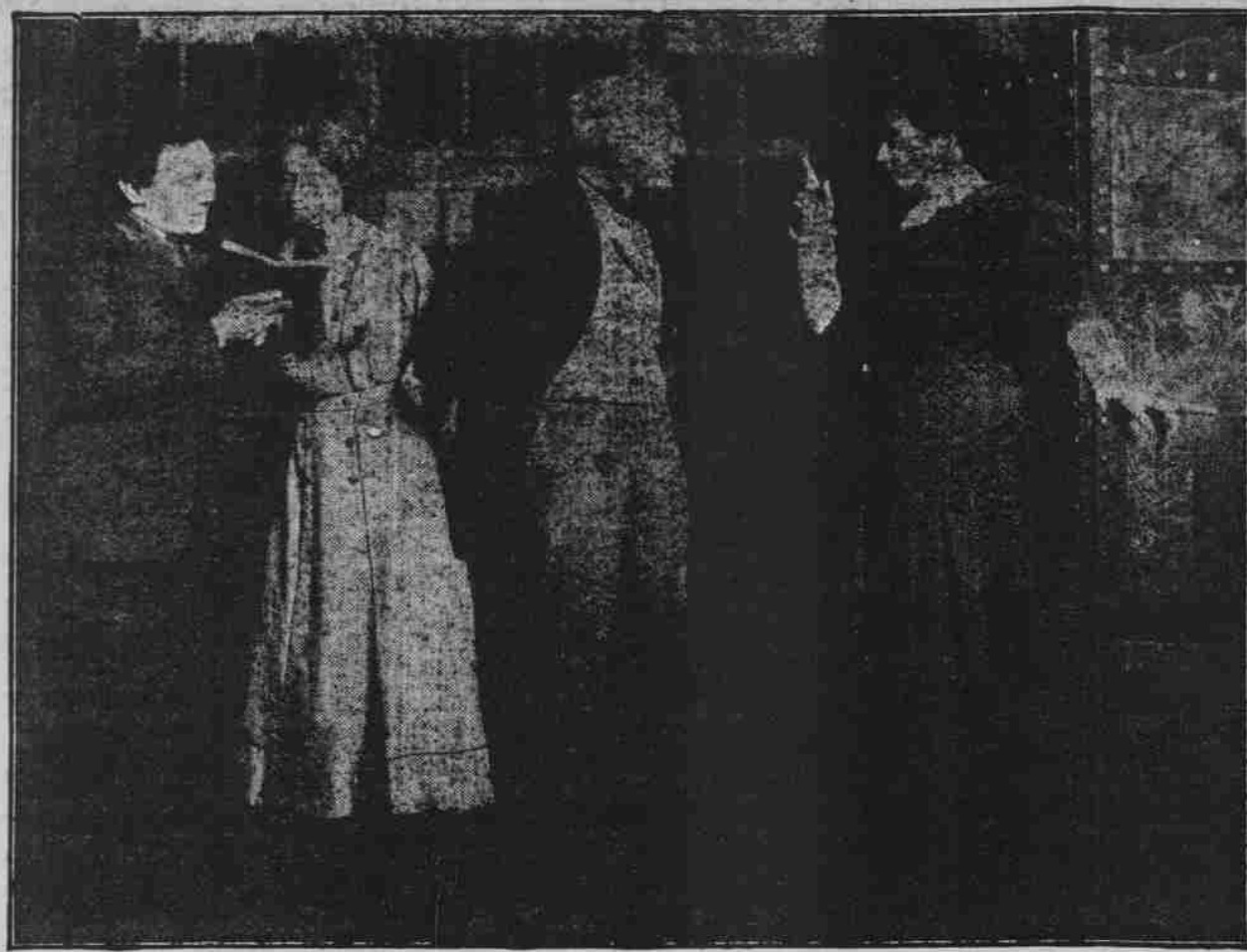
There is no friendship between man and woman, for one is always sure to give more than the other.

The dramatic version, in five acts, of Sir Gilbert Parker's popular tale, "The Right of Way," will be presented at the Grand Thursday, April 28. You may remember the plot. Charles Steele, a wealthy and brilliant lawyer, has entered into a marriage of convenience with a woman who loves another man. The realization of it has turned him into an infidel and cynic. His influence corrupts others; he himself dispaters at length he determines to end everything; visits a notorious haunt of lunatics, picks a quarrel, and is pitched for dead into the river. Rescued thence by one Joe Portuvalis, whom, though "guilty as hell," he has just successfully defended from a charge of murder, he lives for three years in the man's hut; physically well, but with his mind a blank. Meanwhile, he has fallen in love with Rosalie, a village girl, while his wife, supposing him dead, has married his rival. An operation restores his memory, and the past with all its horrors surges back into his life. He has despised life, courted death, learned to love, and now has to face duty.

The gayest Viennese operetta that ever came out of the gayest music-mad capital is "The Merry Widow," which plays a return engagement in this city Saturday matinee and night, April 30. Lehár, who wrote the music, has established himself as the only living successor to the line of light opera writers beginning with Offenbach and ending with Sullivan. He has all of the abandon and ditty, riotous melody of the Parisian composer of "Pinafore." Sparkling dialogue, bowdlerized scenes of beauty and mirth, passionate episodes of genuine feeling and comedy moments follow one another in less time than it takes to tell it. "The Merry Widow" is the biggest light opera hit since Sullivan & Gilbert collaborated in a matter of theatre record. The production which Henry W. Savage will provide for his greatest success will be worthy of the vehicle he has brought over from Vienna. The chorus which plays so important a part in the success of operetta, is conceded to be the most beautiful and best drilled of any before the public.

At the Majestic.

Hello Bill, a comedy, is to be presented next week by North Bros. Stock company, with Sport North in the role of Bill Fuller. He has the best part yet offered him, and he is determined to make a favorable impression with it. The play deals with the adventures of one William Fuller, who on the eve of his marriage is arrested in a raid on a gambling house and on reading of the appointment of a name-sake to the office of colonel of a regiment of U. S. volunteers, he claims



Miss Blanche Walsh in "The Test."

to his wife that he is the appointee. He goes ostensibly to war, in reality, to jail. When released he goes rummaging in Jersey, returning at the end of three months. Being isolated from the world during his absence he knows nothing of the war and its results, but he is always on the spot with an explanation. Mr. North will be ably assisted in his fun-making by F. C. Carter as Mr. Cutting, Mr. St. Vrain, Mr. Callicott, Mr. Hilliard, Miss Russell, Miss Blaylock, Miss Stone, Miss Robinson and the other members of the company. It is a splendid show, and will be handsomely gowned, artistically staged and is worthy of patronage.

At the Novelty.

"Get a goin' to the Novelty" is the advice given by the management of this theater. Beginning Monday matinee, moving pictures will be the headline. The best service that can be obtained in this line will be offered. No doubt many people wonder why and how pictures can be shown at a theater of such class as the Novelty at the price of 5 cents. The Novelty, being equipped with cooling apparatus and ventilation which combined with the picture service given will put it in a class by itself. Master Carl Fletcher, who during his stay this season has won favor with the many patrons, will continue to sing the illustrated songs. Five shows will be given daily, at 2 and 3 o'clock in the afternoon and 7:30, 8:30 and 9:30 at night. The theater will cater especially to women and children.

SPOTLIGHT FLASHES.

"The Great Divide" was at the Grand last Wednesday night and it was greeted by only a fair audience. Why this department does not know nor will it attempt to find out. One thing is certain, however, "The Great Divide" is one of the very best shows during the present season. It was worth seeing. The company was not all-star it is true but the play more than made up this defect, if such it may be called. The audience at the Grand Wednesday night shows which way the wind is blowing during the present theatrical season. Shows are falling all over the country. The managers are at their wits end to find out what the people want. Nothing seems to take.

So the Shuberts are after "pass gratters" as they call 'em, are they? Well, that's nothing new. Trust that pair to do almost anything and you'll not be disappointed. They are to shut the doors of their playhouses to all except those holding tickets. The free list is to be suspended. Once upon a time, not such a very long time ago, either, Shuberts et al were sending out passes by the carload to pack houses

for some of their "stars" on first nights. True a theater is a private enterprise operated for private gain and not for love of art or anything else except money, but who on earth ever heard of keeping policemen out of a show shop except the Shuberts? Nobody.

Special to Spotlight Flash.

Rapid City, Ill., April 23.—A barber giving the name of Clipperton Close, was arrested here this afternoon by detectives after a thrilling chase. It could not be earned on what charge he was taken into custody. When given the "third degree" at headquarters Close broke down and confessed that he once cut the hair of Edward Ferguson, an actor under contract to a stock company now playing in Topeka, Kan. Members of the detective department say the man is crazy, as Ferguson lived here for some time, and it is known that he never could stand the clippers. Close is between two fires as a result of his confession, say the police. Ferguson it is understood will prosecute him for slander, for declaring that he had cut his hair and the police will also take action against him.

Special to Spotlight Flash.

Rowdennan, Cal., April 23.—Jim Jeffries will slightly change his training program. For the next ten days only light work will be indulged in. Jim was out of bed at dawn this morning and after running seventy-five miles on a wire fence returned to camp and disposed of a light breakfast consisting of nine dozen hard-boiled eggs, two hundred pancakes, three gallons of coffee, a side of beef and the centers from six hundred rolls. After breakfast he boxed one hundred rounds with Farmer Burns. Light exercise in the afternoon consisted of balancing two cows on his thumb. He closed the day by expressing a desire to see some "advertising novelties." Sole Agent Berger announced his intention of sending for a couple of actors now working in Topeka. "They're novelties all right," said Sam.

Manager Jack Truitt of the Majestic will add to his duties next week. He will take charge of the Novelty theater which opens Monday as a moving picture house. Manager "Jack" is one of the most popular men in town and expects to make the Novelty pay.

Asks Divorce and Children.

The mother of two children, one 18 years of age and the other 12, Ida B. Graham, is accused of not being a proper person for their custody and with gross neglect to herself by W. D. Graham, who has filed a suit for divorce in the district court. Alleging that she intended to leave the jurisdiction of the court with her children, the husband also secured a restraining order to prevent such action.

ARE TO BUILD AT ONCE.

Gordon Bros. Will Erect Three-Story Structure on Kansas Avenue.

A building permit will be taken out some time this week for a three-story brick building to cover three store fronts at the southeast corner of Fourth and Kansas avenue. This building will be built by the Gordon brothers.

The small buildings occupying this site have practically been razed to the ground. The plans have been drawn and the contract for the building will be let this week. The cost of the building has been estimated at \$10,000.

The front of the building will be white enameled brick—similar to that used on several of the new buildings in Topeka this year. The original plans call for a structure covering three store fronts on Kansas avenue and extending back to the alley between Kansas avenue and Quincy street. Two stories were planned at this time.

If Chief Wilmarth will make the necessary allowances, the building will be extended three stories in the air. The new building is in an excellent location and will improve this end of town considerably. Kansas avenue is improving and building from one end to the other. Never before in the history of Topeka was there such a growth in the business section.

FLEE FOR THEIR LIVES.

Exodus of Women and Children From Province of Hunan.

Hankow, April 23.—The situation in Hunan province is reported as critical. Women and children are fleeing for their lives from Changsha, the capital. A number of villages near that city have been burned by native mobs. The country is plagarized with threats to kill all foreigners.

This news was brought by missionary refugees who arrived here today from Changsha and nearby stations. Many of them had traveled 30 miles on foot and reached Yangtze Kiang river in rags. Their houses had been burned and they lost all of their personal effects.

The missionaries stated that gunboats in the river have their guns trained upon Changsha and nearby points and have effected a refuge for many foreigners. Three thousand Chinese imperial soldiers are occupying the strategic points of the capital and detachments are being hurried to

GRAND OPERA HOUSE

SEATS ON SALE AT ROWLEY'S

Thurs., April 28

Return Engagement of

Sir Gilbert Parker's
Great Play

The Right of Way

With Klav & Erlanger's
Original Production

AN EXCELLENT CAST

It Was—It Is—the Dramatic
Sensation of the Season

Prices: 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1, \$1.50

SEATS ON SALE TUESDAY

the outlying districts where rioting is reported.

Many Chinese have been killed. In one instance a technical school was set on fire and 30 students were burned to death. When vessels approached Changsha to rescue the imperiled ones the Chinese mob saturated junks with kerosene oil of the Standard Oil company and, setting them afire, allowed them to float down stream in an attempt to destroy the oncoming steamers.

The viceroys of Hunan province and the governor of Changsha assert they have the situation in hand and that order is practically restored, but the missionaries say they fear further outrages.

The telegraph wires to the westward of the disturbed districts have been cut. Many of the missionaries, American, French and Norwegian, remain at outlying posts.

The British consul at Changsha, who has arrived here, said today: "If one foreigner had been killed a massacre probably would have followed. The British consulate was burned because it employed laborers from another province in the construction of new buildings."

The monetary loss to the foreign interests is believed not to have been great.

WILL STAND BY TAFT.

Friends of Senator Root Say Roosevelt Will Endorse Administration.

Washington, April 22.—When Col. Roosevelt returned to civilization at Kharum several weeks ago he found awaiting him a letter from Senator Root reviewing the events in the Taft administration since Mr. Roosevelt's departure from the United States.

Mr. Root's close friends were saying today that the senator has received a letter from Col. Roosevelt in reply and that the Roosevelt letter to Root, like other letters that have been received by the colonel's old friends here, contained no intimation that he was disposed to criticize the Taft administration. In fact, the men who were close when he was president are certain that he will come out strongly in support of the Taft administration as soon as he arrives in this country.

Senator Root will sail for Europe May 21 to attend the Peace conference at The Hague.

Senator Root spent nearly an hour with President Taft at the White House. He would not say whether he would see former President Roosevelt on the other side before the latter sailed for New York, where he is due June 17.

Airship Fleet Moves.

Cologne, April 23.—The government airship fleet which was delayed by boisterous weather yesterday, started for Homburg today. The squadron, consisting of three aerial cruisers, will be reviewed at Homburg by the emperor.

GRAND TICKETS At Rowley's

Tuesday, April 26—Seats Selling

BLANCHE WALSH

In The Greatest TRIUMPH OF HER CAREER **THE TEST** BY Jules Eckert GOODMAN

"The greatest play seen on the American stage in years."
—N. Y. Sun.

"One of the most sensational hits ever produced."—N. Y. Herald.

"A play that should be seen by every man, woman and child in every walk of life."—N. Y. World.

Saturday, April 30th

Matinee and Night

BEST BEWILDERING BEAUTIFUL

PRICES PRODUCTION PERFECT

HENRY W. SAVAGE'S

GREATEST OPERATIC SENSATION OF ALL NATIONS

NEW YORK PRODUCTION

THE MERRY WIDOW

MUSIC BY FRANZ LEHAR

MADAM BUTTERFLY

GRAND OPERA ORCHESTRA OF 25

GREATEST EUROPEAN SUCCESS 2 YEARS IN BERLIN-BUDAPEST

LONDON-PARIS-1 YEAR NEW YORK

6 MONTHS-CHICAGO-BOSTON

SAVAGE'S SUPERFINE SCENERY

MIRTH MAKING MUSIC

On Sale Wednesday April 27

No Free List

Prices 50c to \$2.00 Boxes \$2.50 Matinee 50c to \$1.50

Prices: 15c & 25c

NORTH BROS. STOCK CO., Presenting

Week of April 25

"HELLO BILL" WITH "SPORT" NORTH

A COMEDY FULL OF LAUGHS A Regular Grouch Killer

MATINEES Wed'y. & Sat'y SEAT SALE SIX DAYS AHEAD Matinees—2:30 Evenings—8:15

Beginning Monday NOVELTY Five Shows Daily

Get A' Goin' Moving Pictures ILLUSTRATED SONGS By Carl Fletcher Get A' Goin'

FIVE CENTS—KIDS TWO FOR A NICKEL

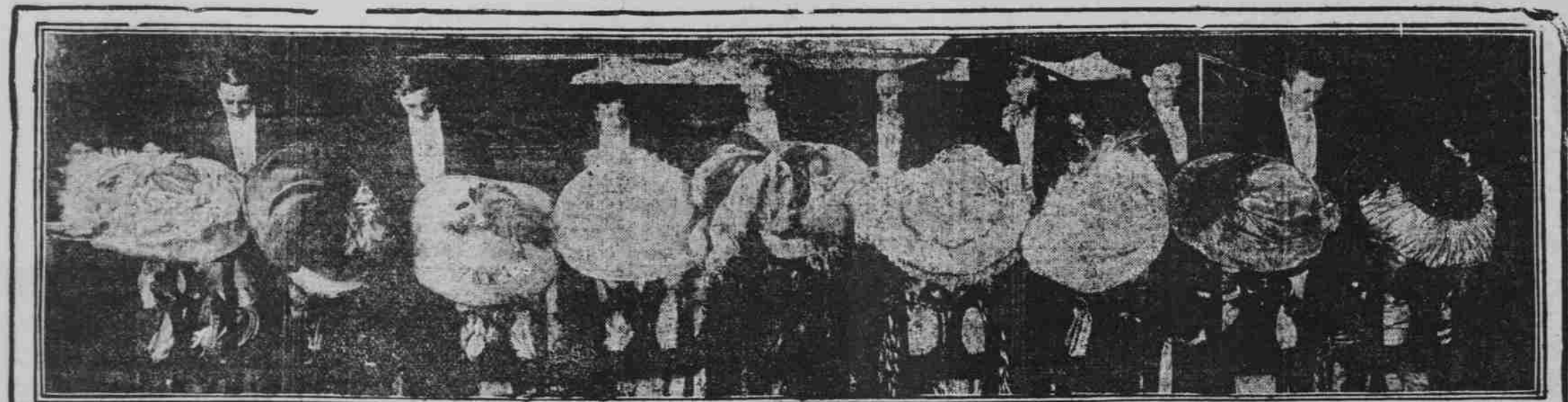
Trains to KANSAS CITY FAST TIME NO STOPS DOUBLE TRACK

Leave Topeka 12:40 A.M. 4:30 A.M. 7:35 A.M. 1:45 P.M. 2:25 P.M. 3:50 P.M. 7:00 P.M. 7:55 P.M.

Returning Lr. Kansas City 7:55 A.M. 9:45 A.M. 10:40 A.M. 11:20 A.M. 2:25 P.M. 3:25 P.M. 10:00 P.M. 10:10 P.M.

Use the Rock Island Next Time

Rock Island Never Too Busy to Answer Question Phone 384 H. H. HUNT City Pass Agt.



TWO VIEWS OF THE MARVELOUS MERRY WIDOW HATS

AS WORN BY THE MAXIM GIRLS in HENRY W. SAVAGE PRODUCTION

